New Housing Loan Scheme for Salaried Class

3558. SHRI G.Y. KRISHNAN: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Chief Provident Fund Commissioner has announced a policy decision of New Housing loan for the salaried class;

(b) if so, what are the details of the scheme and rules for the sanction of such loans, salary-wise;

(c) whether the said scheme has started operating and if so, the names and addresses of designated offices. zone-wise; and

(d) what is the fixed time schedule for disposing of the applications after completion of all the required formalities clearing such housing loan applications without undue delay?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P.A. SANGMA): (a) and (b) The Central Board of Trustees,' EPF, has recommended for setting up of a Housing Finance Fund for the EPF subscribers with provisions for grant of loan assistance for acquisition of house, flat, etc.

(c) No. Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Releasing the Provident Fund Amount of Employees

3559. SHRI GHUFRAN AZAM: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that following the direction or advice of the Borroughs Welcome India Limited. Bombay, the Regional Provident Fund Commissioner, Bombay, has not yet released advances on account of provident fund coutributcd both by the company and its employees who were later dismissed and/or appeals are pending before different courts of law;

(b) whether Central Government have also been receiving spate - of representations from Members of Parliament for the release of fund amount demanded by such employees of the company;

(c) if so, the facts and details thereof; and

(d) what further action is being taken in this regard expeditiously?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P.A. SANGMA): (a) No, Sir. As on 12.8.94 no claim for advance/ settlement of Provident Fund was pending in the office of the Regional Provident Fund Commissioner, Bombay.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) and (d) Do not arise.

Increasing Unemployment in the Country

3560. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the number of applicants in the live registers of Employment Exchanges has increased from 1.78 crore in 1981 to 3.63 crore in 1991;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the number of vacancies being notified to Employment Exchanges has also come down from 8.97 lakh in 1981 to 4.59 lakh in 1991;

(e) whether it is also a fact that the arrival of Multinational Corporations with new technology resulting in greater automatization and lesser manpower is also likely to deteriorate further employment situation of the country;

(d) if so, what steps Government propose to take to check the fall in